



Seattle City Councilmember Tim Burgess 2008-2012 Accomplishments

Topic/Theme	Month/Year	Description	Final Action/Result	Council Bill or Resolution Number
Arts and Culture	February-08	Co-sponsored legislation leasing Mercer Arena to Seattle Opera for redevelopment/restoration	Passed Council 9-0	CB 116118
	May-09	Co-sponsored legislation waiving admissions tax on live music venues	Passed Council 5-3	CB 116394
	November-09	Urged Council colleagues to support restoration in library hours from Mayor's proposed budget and restored over \$800,000 in funding to do so	Budget passed Council 9-0	CB 116716
	September-10	Drafted proclamation celebrating 40 years of the Bumbershoot festival	Presented September 13, 2010	CF 311051
	December-11	Voted to create a Downtown Historic Theatre District to support Seattle's entertainment treasures that energize the heart of our city with the performance arts	Passed Council 9-0	CR 31341
	April-12	Voted for legislation to send ballot measure to voters to give dedicated funding to library system that restores library hours and improves the library collection	Voters passed Levy measure with 64% approval in August, 2012	CB 117425
Budget and Finance	November-09	Led push on the Council to increase Rainy Day Fund from \$5 million to \$10 million in anticipation of tough economic times to come	Budget passed Council 9-0	CB 116716
	December-10	Co-sponsored legislation to extend the application of City benefits for City employees on active military duty and their families	Passed Council 9-0	CB 117069
	June-11	Helped craft legislation creating an Audit Committee to give guidance to and be a resource for the Office of City Auditor	Passed Council 8-0	CB 117171
	November-11	As part of 2012 budget process, successfully led effort to establish a new Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs	Budget passed Council 8-0	CB 117327
	September-12	Sponsored legislation establishing a performance measurement framework for the Council's budget decisions	Passed Council 9-0	CR 31404
	September-October 2012	Drafted and disseminated online survey of resident priorities in anticipation of 2013 budget decisions	Over 1,000 people responded to the survey	

	September- November 2012	As Budget Committee Chair, led the Council's budget process and amended the Mayor's proposal to provide better care for Seattle's most vulnerable residents, enhance transportation mobility and improve public safety	Budget passed Council 9-0	CB 117647
Civil Rights	May-10	Co-sponsored resolution calling for federal-level immigration reform and denouncing Arizona's State Senate Bill 1070 as a step in the wrong direction for immigration policy	Passed Council 7-0	CR 31214
	July-10	Co-sponsored legislation to require written consent from deceased or family of the deceased for commercial display of human remains	Passed Council 9-0	CB 116916
	October-11	Requested an audit of rental housing practices in December 2010; resulted in findings of widespread discrimination toward African Americans and people with disabilities, filing of civil complaints against six property owners		
Economic Development	January-08	Co-sponsored resolution directing city to renegotiate lease for Key Arena with Seattle Storm	Passed Council 9-0	CR 31039
	November-09	Sponsored legislation to repeal the Employee Hours Tax (Head tax) in order to encourage job growth	Passed Council 8-1	CB 116592
	July-11	Voted to update rules related to street-food vending and allow for a greater number and variety of vendors on Seattle streets	Passed Council 8-0	CB 117225
	September-11	Sponsored legislation creating a Tourism Improvement Area and establishing a dedicated source of revenue for tourism marketing and promotion	Passed Council 9-0	CB 117258
	April-12	Sponsored legislation waiving business and occupation taxes on grants for life sciences research and development	Passed Council 8-0	CB 117438
	October-12	Improved agreement to finance a new sports and entertainment arena by negotiating for a transportation infrastructure fund, stronger financial protections for the public's investment and a clearer environmental review process	Passed Council 7-2	CB 117609
Education	July, November 2009	Participated in two trips to New York City with the Office for Education, the School District and the Alliance for Education to study education innovations		
	September- October 2009	Oversaw appointment of five new members to the Families and Levy Oversight Committee in preparation for the levy campaign in 2010	First two passed Council 9-0; last three passed 8-0	CF 310174 CF 310175 CF 310213 CF 310214 CF 310215

	April-10	Crafted and sponsored and resolution detailing the structure and process for renewing the 2011 Families and Education Levy	Passed Council 9-0	CR 31206
	May-10	Appointed 12 citizen representatives to serve on the 2011 Families and Education Levy Advisory Committee	Passed Council 8-0	CF 310796 through CF 310807
	June-10	Hosted first in series of discussions with prominent voices in the education reform movement to spark greater conversations on the subject by Seattle residents		
	November-10	Hosted Seattle's university presidents and other higher education leaders for a discussion about to better prepare children for college and career		
	March-11	Sponsored legislation and led effort to renew and enhance the Families and Education Levy's support for Seattle schoolchildren, achieving unanimous Council support for a package put forward to voters that would double the funds available for targeted interventions	Passed Council 9-0	CB 117103
	May-11	Encouraged the Seattle School District to utilize the expertise of the City's Ethics office, leading to a formal partnership between the two entities that brought greater independence and oversight to District ethics enforcement	Passed Council 8-0	CB 117177
	July-11	Co-hosted welcome event at City Hall for new University of Washington president Michael Young, strengthening the relationship between City government and the City's largest employer		
	November-11	Successfully advocated with other civic leaders for renewal and enhancement of Families and Education Levy	Levy passed with 64% approval	
	March-12	Sponsored legislation adopting implementation strategy for new Families and Education Levy that raises the standard of accountability for City-funded programs	Passed Council 9-0	CB 117395
	December-12	Sponsored event at City Hall in partnership with the Office of City Auditor that featured University of Washington professors presenting their research on matters related to City policy in various topic areas		
Environment	April-08	Successfully changed SEPA bill before it reached Committee to limit changes to Urban Centers and Station Overlay Districts	Passed Council 8-0	CB 116101
	July-08	Co-sponsored legislation to ban the use of expanded polystyrene food service containers and plastic service ware	Passed Council 7-1	CB 116250
	July-08	Co-sponsored legislation establishing an advanced recovery fee (a green fee) for disposable shopping bags	Passed Council 6-1	CB 116251

	October-10	Voted to establish an opt-out registry for yellow pages phone books	Passed Council 8-1	CB 116954
	December-11	Co-sponsored legislation banning the use of plastic bags in retail stores and establishing a 5-cent pass-through charge for paper bags	Passed Council 9-0	CB 117345
	May-12	Voted for resolution stating the City's opposition to transporting coal across Washington State and through Seattle	Passed Council 9-0	CR 31379
Ethics and Elections	March-08	Co-sponsored legislation requiring paid lobbyists of the city to register	Passed Council 9-0	CB 116154
	April-08	Co-sponsored legislation that formed the Campaign Public Financing Advisory Committee	Passed Council 7-1	CR 310352
	June-09	Closed a loophole that allowed city employees to use taxpayer funds to pay for ethics violation fines	Passed Council 8-0	CB 116460
	June-09	Voted to strengthen and clarify the city's ethics code in the first comprehensive review of the code in over 20 years	Passed Council 6-2	CB 116524
	June-09	Sponsored legislation to restrict the solicitation of campaign contributions from City employees	Passed Council 6-2	CB 116526
	September-11	Sponsored resolution requesting the Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission to monitor compliance with election laws on campaign activities related to the Seattle Transportation Benefit District	Passed Council 9-0	CR 31318
	February, July, September 2012	Appointed three highly qualified applicants to fill one routine and two unexpected vacancies on the Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission	All appointments passed Council unanimously	CF 312124 CF 312455 CF 312493
	October-12	Co-sponsored legislation to reform local elections by limiting the fundraising window for candidates to local office and prohibiting the rollover of campaign funds from one campaign to the next	Passed Council 7-2	CB 117548
Fire Department	August-08	Sponsored resolution recognizing the work that the City of Seattle's Fire Department does on behalf of the Muscular Dystrophy Association with their Fill the Boot annual event	Passed Council 7-0	CR 31078
	October-09	Led process and sponsored legislation authorizing the city to acquire property for a new home for Fire Station 20 on W. Queen Anne, decisively ending a four-year site search	Passed Council 9-0	CB 116671 CB 116679 CB 116680
Good Government	August-12	Sponsored legislation creating up to 50 supported employment positions within city government for individuals with developmental disabilities	Passed Council 9-0	CB 117542
	September-12	Sponsored legislation closing loophole that allowed for a delay in public filing of consultant contracts with the City Clerk	Passed Council 8-0	CB 117579

	September-12	Sponsored legislation establishing a registry of appointments to city positions and boards and commissions and directing the City Clerk to provide reminders to city departments to fill upcoming expired posts	Passed Council 8-0	CB 117596
Housing and Human Services	November-08	Added funding for shelter, day-center, emergency food programs, advocacy and capacity-building programs	Budget passed Council 9-0	CB 116397
	November-09	Successfully advocated with other civic leaders for renewal of Housing Levy	Voters passed Proposition 1	
	November-09	Added funding for shelter, day-center, emergency food programs, advocacy and capacity-building programs	Budget passed Council 9-0	CB 116716
	November-11	Added \$435,000 to the budget for housing vouchers, transitional housing facilities and the rapid re-housing program to address the spike in homeless families	Budget passed Council 8-0	CB 117327
	November-11	Expanded funding for the Nurse Family Partnership, a program that helps break the cycle of poverty by working with first-time low-income mothers to improve their pregnancy outcomes, their child's health and development and the economic self-sufficiency of their family	Budget passed Council 8-0	CB 117327
	September-12	Voted for legislation to allow the Seattle Housing Authority to redevelop the Yesler Terrace community, starting a multi-year process that will replace the existing low-income housing, add more than 1,000 additional housing units priced below market-rate and add thousands more market rate units	All pieces of legislation passed Council 9-0	CB 117536 CB 117540 CB 117541 CR 31403 CF 311389
	October-12	Voted to establish Rental Housing registration and inspection program to ensure health and safety of renters throughout Seattle	Passed Council 5-0	CB 117569
	November-12	Further expanded funding for the Nurse Family Partnership, making Seattle one of only four cities in the country to make this program available to all first-time low-income mothers who want to participate	Budget passed Council 9-0	CB 117647
Intergovernmental Relations	2010-2012	As part of the Council's "Seattle for Washington" campaign to improve ties with other parts of the state, met with elected officials from King, Snohomish and Pierce Counties including the County Executives, County Councilmembers and State Legislators		
Parks and Recreation	April-08	Co-sponsored legislation that formed the Parks and Green Spaces Levy citizens' advisory committee	Passed Council 7-1	CR 31055

	July-08	Co-sponsored legislation to put the 2008 Parks and Open Space Levy on the ballot	Passed Council 7-0	CB 116274
	June-09	Voted to create a four-block park boulevard in Belltown that will improve public safety and create green space in the center city	Passed Council 9-0	CB 116560
	November-10	Restored funding for keeping community centers open around the City	Budget passed Council 9-0	CB 116997
	November-11	As part of budget deliberations, voted for effort to restructure community center operating hours to a geographic clustering model based on usage data	Budget passed Council 8-0	CB 117327
Planning/Land Use and Neighborhoods	December-08	Helped write first Incentive Zoning laws for Seattle	Passed Council 8-1	CB 116358
	March-09	Called for designation of the P-I Globe as a historic landmark	Historic Preservation Board designated the Globe as a landmark in April, 2012	
	November-09	Voted to expand availability of permits for backyard cottages to entire city after refining legislation in committee	Passed Council 9-0	CB 116528
	December-09	Co-sponsored legislation to change land use code to expedite demolition of derelict housing that serves as a magnet for criminal activity	Passed Council 9-0	CB 116642
	April-11	Voted to update zoning in South Downtown neighborhoods, encouraging residential growth and facilitating economic activity while preserving historic character	Passed Council 9-0	CB 117140
	December 2011- April 2012	Voted to update zoning in four neighborhoods (West Seattle Junction, Roosevelt, North Beacon Hill and Othello) to concentrate housing and jobs around major transit areas	Four separate bills passed Council by different margins	CB 117294 CB 117379 CB 117375 CB 117412
	July-12	Voted for package of regulatory reforms to city's land use code to encourage business and job growth	Passed Council 8-0	CB 117430
	July-12	Voted for amendment to Living Building Pilot Project to encourage further environmentally-friendly development	Passed Council 9-0	CB 117516
Public Health	September-11	Negotiated compromises to legislation providing paid sick and safe leave to employees working in Seattle, succeeded in gaining adoption of 13 amendments making it easier for employers and employees to understand their rights and responsibilities under the requirements of the new ordinance	Passed Council 8-1	CB 117216

	May-12	Sponsored legislation removing section in City Retirement System code that excluded City employees from receiving disability retirement payments due to a preexisting condition	Passed Council 9-0	CB 117447
Public Safety and Police Accountability	May-08	Successfully amended legislation to move removal of Automated Public Toilets up from January 2009 to July 2008	Amendment passed 2-1 Legislation Passed Council 5-0	CR 31057
	June-08	Sponsored legislation requiring more stringent guest registration at motels and hotels as part of anti-crime effort	Passed Council 5-0	CB 116207
	July-08	Sponsored legislation to improve police accountability, and expand the Office of Professional Accountability Review Board from 3 to 7 civilian members	Passed Council 7-0	CB 116259
	September-08	Sponsored legislation to increase fines for soliciting the services of a prostitute from \$500 to \$1,000, with the funds going to the prostitution prevention and intervention account, and the Sex Industry Victims Fund	Passed Council 9-0	CB 116324
	September-08	Sponsored resolution, showing City Council and the Mayor's support of two proposals for funding from the King County Mental Illness and Drug Dependency (MIDD) funds	Passed Council 9-0	CR 31090
	October-08	Gained funding from the King County MIDD to establish a Crisis Intervention Team/Mental Health Partnership Pilot Project, and establish a Safe Housing and Treatment for Children in Prostitution Pilot Project	Passed King County Council 8-0	King County Substitute Ordinance No. 2008-0489.3
	November-08	Restored funding for CURB, GOTS and Co-STARS crime prevention programs	Budget passed Council 9-0	CB 116397
	March-09	Established a \$150 fee for patrons of prostitutes to fund mandatory counseling of both prostitutes and their patrons	Passed Council 9-0	CB 116472
	June-09	Brought national crime prevention experts David Kennedy (John Jay College of Criminal Justice), Dr. Gary Slutkin (CeaseFire Project) and Phelan Wyrick (USDOJ) to Seattle for community conversations on reducing urban violence		
	September-December 2009	Raised enough funding for the Children in Prostitution Pilot Project from the city, county, foundation and private donors to launch the project in early 2010	Budget passed Council 9-0	CB 116716
	November-09	Added funding to continue innovative Drug Market Initiative program to close down open air drug markets and offer the choice of services or prison to drug dealers	Budget passed Council 9-0	CB 116716
	November-09	Restored funding for CURB, GOTS and Co-STARS crime prevention programs and provided direction to implement recommendations of evaluative report	Budget passed Council 9-0	CB 116716

November-09	Sponsored legislation to give police a sharper and well-defined tool to reduce crime on chronic nuisance properties	Passed Council 9-0	CB 116667
January-10	Sponsored resolution stating the City Council's policy goals and priorities for the appointment and confirmation of a new Chief of Police	Passed Council 9-0	CR 31184
March-10	Sponsored legislation extending Seattle's jail services contract with King County until 2016	Passed Council 9-0	CB 116815
April-10	Call for increased foot patrols resulted in pilot program implementation by police department	SPD implemented increased foot patrols	
April-10	Sponsored legislation giving police an additional tool to control aggressive solicitation on the street by making behavior that makes a reasonable person fearful or feel compulsion to give a civil infraction	Passed Council 5-4; subsequently vetoed by Mayor and the veto was sustained	CB 116807
April-10	Brought UCLA professor Mark Kleiman to Seattle for a series of discussions with public safety leaders and the community		
July, November 2010	Requested a report from the City Auditor on graffiti and implemented budget-related recommendations of that report	Budget passed Council 9-0	CB 116997
August-10	Oversaw confirmation process of Police Chief John Diaz	Confirmed by Council 8-0	CF 310947
November-10	Added malicious harassment (bias crimes) to the list of crimes where victims can receive support services from the victim advocates of the Seattle Police Department	Budget passed Council 9-0	CB 116997
November-10	Restored funding for domestic violence intervention programs and victim advocate positions during budget deliberations	Budget passed Council 9-0	CB 116997
January-11	Hosted public forum on the problem of sex trafficking of minors in our community, drawing over 500 people to the event		
April-11	Sponsored legislation making wage theft a crime and giving the City authority to revoke business licenses from employers who commit wage theft	Passed Council 9-0	CB 117143
May-11	Brought scholars from George Mason University's Center for Evidence-Based Crime Policy to Seattle for a series of discussions with policy and community leaders, leading to greater partnership between the police department and the Center		
May-11	Received a requested review of City's crime prevention programs to inform future budget decisions in this area		CF 311484

	September-11	Approved agreement for jail services with King County that allows the City to postpone any construction of its own facility for at least 20 years, saving an estimated \$200 million in construction costs	Passed Council 9-0	CB 117244
	November-11	As part of 2012 budget process, led push to restore precinct liaison positions in the City Attorney's Office to create proactive problem solvers out in neighborhoods	Budget passed Council 8-0	CB 117327
	February 2011-January 2012	Led effort to establish Washington State Department of Corrections community supervision pilot program modeled after a successful Hawaii program that uses swift and certain sanctions as opposed to severe ones in order to reduce recidivism and reoccurring drug violations among released offenders	Based on preliminary pilot study findings, Washington State Legislature passed budget in spring 2012 to expand this pilot program to other jurisdictions	
	October-12	Co-sponsored legislation selecting a Monitor to implement the Federal Department of Justice consent decree	Passed Council 8-1	CR 31414
Transportation	December-08	Voted to continue examining the possibility of additional streetcar lines	Compromise bill passed Council 6-3	CR 31091
	October-09	Voted to authorize execution of a Memorandum of Agreement between the State of Washington and the City of Seattle to move forward on a deep-bore tunnel replacement for SR 99	Passed Council 9-0	CB 116668
	October-09	Co-sponsored Traffic Justice Summit with City Attorney and the Cascade Bicycle Club to learn more about the need for stronger laws to protect pedestrians and bicyclists		
	April-10	Worked with Council colleagues to submit recommendations to the State for improving design of the SR 520 bridge replacement project	State's preferred alternative, announced later in April, incorporated vast majority of Council recommendations	
	August-10	Co-sponsored resolution expressing the City's intent to authorize agreements with the State to continue the Alaskan Way Viaduct Replacement Project if the State awards a design build contract, allowing the project to move forward on schedule	Passed Council 8-1	CR 31235
	August-10	Co-sponsored resolution calling on the State to provide funding for transit and to give local governments legislative authority to provide this funding	Passed Council 9-0	CR 31237
	September-10	Voted to create a Transportation Benefit District in the City to provide more flexibility in funding options for transportation projects	Passed Council 8-0	CB 116947

	November-10	Led Council effort during budget deliberations to create a policy- and outcome-based approach to setting on-street parking rates	Budget passed Council 9-0	CB 116997
	February-11	Voted to approve agreements between the Washington State Department of Transportation and City departments allowing the replacement of the Alaskan Way Viaduct to move forward	Passed Council 8-1; vetoed by Mayor; veto overridden by Council; challenged by referendum and upheld by voters	CB 117101
	August-11	Voted to give Seattle voters the option to increase vehicle license fees by \$60 to pay for transit and transportation infrastructure investments	Passed Seattle Transportation Benefit District Board	Res. 5
	September-11	Voted to give the Washington State Department of Transportation notice to proceed with the replacement of the Alaskan Way Viaduct	Passed Council 9-0	CR 31324
	April-12	Voted to approve the City's Transit Master Plan	Passed Council 9-0	CR 31367
	September-12	Voted for new regulations of the tow industry to prevent exorbitant pricing of impounds from private lots	Passed Council 8-0	CB 117568
	September-12	Voted for resolution recommending against a second drawbridge across the Montlake Cut as part of the SR 520 replacement project	Passed Council 8-0	CR 31411
	October-12	Negotiated for the creation of a \$40 million transportation infrastructure fund as part of the public-private partnership to finance a new sports and entertainment arena	Passed Council 7-2	CB 117609
	November-12	As part of budget deliberations, shifted funding to address more immediate transportation and transit needs	Budget passed Council 9-0	CB 117647
	December-12	Voted to establish a free-floating car sharing pilot program in certain neighborhoods throughout the city	Passed Council 9-0	CB 117661
Youth Issues	November-08	Worked closely with other councilmembers, Council staff, and the Mayor's office to edit and focus the Youth Violence Prevention Initiative. Added 5 Resource Officers to South End Middle and High Schools	Budget passed Council 9-0	CB 116397
	April-09	Sponsored legislation to adopt final budget for Seattle Youth Violence Prevention Initiative	Passed Council 9-0	CB 116489
	March-10	Sponsored legislation to formalize the Seattle Youth Commission giving youth a greater voice in city government	Passed Council 7-0	CB 116791
	February-12	Sponsored resolution providing the Families and Education Levy Oversight Commission with advisors from the Youth Commission	Passed Council 6-0	CR 31359

updated 12/2012